

19 AUG 1978

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Secretary of Defense

SUBJECT : Post-Mortem on the Intelligence Community's
Performance Before and During the Mayaguez
Incident

1. The Post-Mortem on the Mayaguez incident is attached.

2. In brief, the report concludes that the Community performed well, displaying both speed and flexibility. Some shortcomings were found, however, in the exchange of information among the various individuals and agencies of the US Government involved in the Mayaguez incident, and in the ability of the Intelligence Community to provide sufficient advance warning of possible dangers to US vessels in international shipping lanes off Cambodia.

3. The final section contains recommendations for remedial action. In particular, the recommendations deal with improved procedures for handling CRITIC messages and include plans for standardizing procedures in the intelligence and operations centers in the Washington area. Action is also recommended to ensure that all elements of the Government that might be involved in crisis monitoring and management are more closely linked--with emphasis on those systems that issue warnings to US ships and aircraft.

W. E. Colby

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